



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 21, 2008

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, July 20, 2008

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WEATHER: The week started out with seasonable temperatures, however the heat and humidity increased with 90 degree plus readings by the end of the week. A slow moving cold front moved across the state Sunday into Monday eventually becoming stationary just off the coast Monday. This frontal boundary dissipated early in the week as surface high pressure built back in. Another frontal system approached the region by mid week. The flow aloft became zonal and the front oscillated over the region and was the focus for convection for the rest of the week. Severe storms occurred across western into central New York Wednesday and Thursday and across northern and eastern New York and Vermont Friday.

CROPS: There were 4.8 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 1 percent very short, 18 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus. The condition of winter wheat was 1 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Oat condition was 1 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. The condition of the hay was 9 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Dry beans were 97 percent planted behind last year's 99 percent, and behind the five year average of 99 percent. The first cutting of alfalfa was 97 percent completed compared with the previous year's 100 percent, and the five year average of 99 percent. Ninety percent of the clover-timothy mixed hay was cut behind last year's 99 percent and behind the five year average of 92 percent. Grass silage was 95 percent harvested compared with 99 percent last year and the five year average of 95 percent. The following are comments from across the state: Lewis County had most of the second cutting of hay harvested, although humid conditions and unpredictable rain had slowed progress. Clinton and St. Lawrence Counties had a good week for crop work despite a couple of showers in the area. Winter wheat harvest continued in Genesee County, with farmers trying to get it harvested before it sprouted. Wheat and dry harvest was in full swing in Ontario County, but it was challenging with scattered showers throughout the week. Winter wheat harvest was underway in Cayuga County and the corn was developing well. Dry hay was nearly impossible to harvest last week in Cortland County. Some farmers were struggling to finish first cutting, while others were well into their second cutting. Also in Cortland County, some hail hit the Harford/Virgil area. Parts of Madison County were hit with hail and some corn was shredded. Montgomery and Fulton Counties crops looked good except for the first cutting of hay that producers were still trying to take as dry hay. Corn looked good in Washington County. Some corn and soybean acres were damaged by hail in Steuben County. Dutchess County crops looked good, but some rain is needed. Most of the second cutting of hay was completed in Sullivan County, and some early signs of European Corn borer were reported

FRUIT: Apples were 24 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 41 percent good and 9 percent excellent. Grapes were 4 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Peaches were 11 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Pears were 4 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. The Long Island Grape Region reported many vineyards irrigated the last few weeks due to prolonged warm, dry weather. Potato leafhoppers are lingering in some blocks. Japanese beetles had been low but building. Berry susceptibility to black rot, downy and powdery mildew was declining. A serious orchard virus that has the potential to devastate the local peach crop appears to be spreading in western New York. Plum Pox Virus was first detected in Niagara County and spread this year to Orleans County. Columbia and Greene Counties hail damaged fruit looked good for everything else except fresh market. The raspberry harvest is coming to a close in Ontario County, while the blueberry harvest has started. In Steuben County, hail damaged blueberries, apples, cherries, and grapes. Parts of Madison County were hit with hail again.

VEGETABLE: Hot, humid weather conditions and scattered thunderstorms across the state left vegetable crops in good condition. Lettuce was 87 percent planted with reported conditions of 3 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Onion conditions were 2 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 78 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Sweet corn was 98 percent planted with conditions of 2 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 75 percent good and 13 percent excellent. Snap Beans were at 94 percent planted, tomatoes were 99 percent planted, and cabbage was 97 percent planted.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture growth has begun to slow but is still in good condition. Pasture conditions across most of the state were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 54 percent good and 10 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 20, 2008

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/}			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
<u>Hudson Valley</u>											
Albany	91	56	75	+3	178	1483	+242	1.33	+0.63	11.36	-0.73
Glens Falls	89	50	72	+2	154	1158	+83	1.71	+1.05	9.85	-1.75
Poughkeepsie	92	59	76	+4	184	1530	+232	0.71	-0.20	14.50	+0.26
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	82	53	68	+2	128	909	+82	0.77	-0.09	14.71	-1.48
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	83	50	69	-2	134	1084	-17	2.56	+1.88	13.10	+2.46
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	84	56	71	+2	146	1134	+170	0.42	-0.35	12.49	+1.23
Massena	82	50	68	-2	131	1083	+54	1.83	+1.13	11.71	+1.36
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	85	58	74	+3	167	1317	+141	0.60	-0.07	10.84	-0.66
Wales	85	52	70	+3	142	1032	+92	0.85	+0.08	11.26	-2.58
Niagara Falls	87	55	74	+3	169	1286	+97	0.74	+0.12	10.39	-0.91
Rochester	89	55	75	+5	175	1446	+293	0.57	-0.01	6.90	-3.14
Watertown	82	54	71	+3	148	1138	+175	0.81	+0.40	10.71	+1.63
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	89	53	73	+3	162	1272	+124	0.80	+0.15	9.13	-2.45
Geneva	87	54	73	+3	163	1259	+131	1.91	+1.28	9.83	-1.72
Honeoye	87	51	71	-1	152	1208	36	1.53	+0.94	10.37	-0.96
Ithaca	89	53	71	+3	152	1154	+134	2.09	+1.32	11.36	-0.90
Penn Yan	92	58	76	+6	186	1494	+366	3.34	+2.71	9.08	-2.47
Syracuse	89	57	74	+4	166	1371	+207	0.98	+0.14	10.45	-2.47
Warsaw	83	51	69	+3	136	1019	+146	1.41	+0.67	12.79	-0.61
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	85	46	67	0	118	894	+41	1.04	+0.27	10.77	-2.11
Elmira	90	50	72	+2	153	1253	+167	1.47	+0.71	10.21	-1.73
Franklinville	85	48	68	+4	129	930	+153	1.90	+1.13	12.87	-0.59
Jamestown	87	50	71	+5	146	1064	+181	0.97	+0.09	12.55	-2.39
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	87	58	73	+4	159	1239	+188	1.20	+0.43	9.72	-2.67
Cobleskill	87	52	72	+4	154	1115	+142	1.77	+1.00	12.91	-0.54
Morrisville	83	54	69	+2	137	1034	+112	1.86	+1.09	12.74	-0.50
Norwich	91	51	71	+3	149	1069	+97	0.71	-0.06	8.54	-4.96
Oneonta	92	54	73	+7	161	1274	+376	1.48	+0.59	9.86	-4.74
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	91	58	77	+6	189	1353	+216	0.00	-0.63	8.78	-4.50
New York	97	70	83	+7	231	1906	+273	0.54	-0.41	10.58	-3.25

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, the National Weather Service, Agricultural Weather Information Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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